

1868

PLEASANT POINT  
DISTRICT  
HIGH SCHOOL



*SOUVENIR*  
*HISTORY*

1948





STAFF and PUPILS, 1947



1868-1948

PLEASANT POINT DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL  
(SOUTH CANTERBURY, N.Z.)



A SKETCH  
OF THE HISTORY  
OF THE SCHOOL

*Issued in connection with*  
**THE RE-UNION CELEBRATIONS**  
**OCTOBER, 1948**

EDITRESS: EDNA WILSON



1948

HERALD PRINTING WORKS :: TIMARU

1868-1948

PLEASANT POINT DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

*"Service is regarded as the rent  
to be paid for the right  
to live on the earth."*

(Mr. W. Thomas in a speech at the  
60th Anniversary of the School in  
1928.)

A SKETCH  
OF THE HISTORY  
OF THE SCHOOL

Issued in connection with  
THE REUNION CELEBRATIONS  
OCTOBER, 1948

ADDRESS: BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

1948

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

## FOREWORD

\*

The task of compiling the history of the Pleasant Point School, though difficult, has proved very interesting, but whatever credit may be given to the publication of this sketch, it must be distributed among the numerous contributors who have considerably lightened the task. To all those who have helped, ex-pupils, ex-teachers, present teachers, and above all, Mr. Bennett, our Headmaster, to whom much of the credit must be given, I wish to tender my sincere thanks.

For very obvious defects, I assume the responsibility. One of the main difficulties was due to the fact that there are no records of the School before December 1905, and though this made the work very much more complicated, it made more imperative the compilation of some record, in order that we might not forget the work of the early pioneers in connection with the establishment and progress of our School, and the achievements of pupils and teachers throughout the 80 years.

Our School has an outstanding record of which we are very proud and as we look back over its history, we hereby acknowledge our debt of gratitude to all those who have taken part in that record.

THE EDITRESS.



# INDEX

\*

	Page
Foreword .. .. .	3
The Establishment of the School:	
1. The School Buildings .. .. .	5
2. The First Staff .. .. .	7
Teaching Staffs .. .. .	8
Personal Notes:	
1. Headmasters .. .. .	11
2. Infant Mistresses .. .. .	16
3. First Assistants .. .. .	18
4. Some Ex-Pupils and Teachers .. .. .	19
Memories of the 'Eighties by an Ex-Pupil .. .. .	20
Some Random Dates from the Minute Books .. .. .	23
The School Committee .. .. .	24
Householders' Meetings .. .. .	26
Caretakers .. .. .	26
Courses of Instruction .. .. .	26
Technical School Destroyed by Fire .. .. .	28
The School Cadets .. .. .	29
Transport .. .. .	30
Visual Education .. .. .	30
The Farm School .. .. .	31
Consolidation .. .. .	33
Scholastic Achievement .. .. .	34
Dux List .. .. .	36
Prize-givings .. .. .	37
Reunions .. .. .	38
Flower Show .. .. .	40
Dental Clinic .. .. .	41
Sports and Recreations .. .. .	43
Roll of Honour .. .. .	48

## PLEASANT POINT DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

\*

### THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOOL

\*

#### THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

In 1868, a few of the small number of settlers of Pleasant Point held a meeting which was presided over by Mr. Edward Acton, for the purpose of discussing the establishment of a school. Land was given by the New Zealand and Australian Land Company on Te Ngawai Road (where Mrs. Cunningham's house now stands) and the building was erected by public subscription at a cost of £110.

The School was an aided one; the householders within a radius of three miles paid a yearly tax of £1, the children attending School paid 1/6 weekly, while the Provincial Government contributed the balance.

The "Timaru Herald" on Saturday, 24th October, 1868, published the following:—

"On Monday last, a daily school was opened at the Point by Miss Jagger, daughter of Mr. Jagger, of the Timaru School. There were 13 children in attendance the first morning and it is anticipated that the number will soon be doubled.

"The school is held in the building recently erected by subscription for divine worship. Mr. Acton, Mr. Orton and other residents have shown considerable interest in the matter and have assisted the opening of the school in a most substantial manner."

However, on 2nd February, 1870, a meeting was held, when Mr. Acton was again in the chair and the Secretary of the Board of Education was present to outline the manner and conditions on which an assisted school could be established. The duty of the meeting was to elect a committee, which would hold office until the second Tuesday in October and which would have power to raise a rate, not beyond £1, on each householder to supplement the funds of the School. The committee had to provide an acre of land and the Board promised to assist annually the salary of a teacher up to £75 for a master, or £45 for a mistress. The Board of Education was desirous that the management of the School should rest principally with the committee; it reserved, however, its right of sanction as to the appointment and dismissal of teachers.



It was proposed by Mr. Howell and seconded by Mr. Young: "That this meeting hereby declares its willingness that the district described as Pleasant Point School District in the public notice signed by the Chairman of the Board of Education and dated 17th January, 1870, should be formed into an educational district under the Provisions of Educational Ordinance, 1864."

The following committee was then elected: Messrs. Howell, Worthington, Orton, Meek, T. Parr and Acton.

The School was sold for removal, in 1871, to Mr. Inman Jackson, after a new School and residence had been erected in Harris Street. This consisted of two rooms facing the road, but in the following two years, as the attendance further increased, more accommodation was required, and an infant room was added at the back.

Under the Education Act of 1876, the South Canterbury Board of Education assumed control on 1st January, 1887, and decided to enlarge the master's room. It was further lengthened in 1900, and with its four classrooms and two porches, accommodation for 200 children, it consequently further encroached upon the already limited playing-area. In order to accommodate the steadily increasing number of pupils and to meet the ever-increasing educational requirements of the township, it was realised that a new building would be necessary. In 1905 the status of the School was raised to that of a District High School and two years later when the School became overcrowded, the secondary roll having risen to 34, another move was made. On an excellent site of seven acres facing Halstead Street, a brick building was erected containing six rooms. The total cost was apparently £2,340, towards which the Board found £2,090 and the Department of Education £250. In 1907 the building was opened by the Rev. George Barclay, chairman of the Canterbury Education Board.

The old school was removed to the new site just inside the entrance, where it was used for the manual training classes until it was destroyed by fire on 10th September, 1932. The Blue Garage was offered as a temporary woodwork room and the Town Hall supper room, where the electric stove was temporarily fitted in, as a cookery room. However, application was made for a new building, and although it was in the middle of the Depression, the Board drew up a plan for an open-air school, the estimated cost being £1,950. This primary department, built in accordance with the latest open-air principles and situated so as to secure the utmost sunshine, then allowed the main building to be utilised solely for secondary and technical instruction. It was opened in the presence of a large gathering on 6th July, 1933, by Mr. T. D. Burnett, M.P.

for Temuka, who, when declaring the new building officially open, said that he hoped that the highest type of New Zealander would emerge from its doors.

Consolidation actually commenced in February, 1937, although the Opihi pupils had been admitted the previous year when their school was burnt down; and the influx of pupils was catered for, until the new block was built, by three marquees. This new block, another open-air building, was opened in October, 1938, by the Minister of Education, the Hon. P. Fraser.

As the woodwork classes are still occupying temporary premises—the shed originally built as a harness room, and the primary buildings are badly overcrowded, a cloakroom at present being used as a classroom, it is hoped that the new secondary building for which we have been waiting for some time, will not be long in coming.

#### THE FIRST STAFF

The first teacher was Miss Catherine Jagger, who was 17 years old when she accepted the appointment. She was the only applicant who had experience in the Government methods and this she had gained under her father who was in charge of the public school at Timaru. The second teacher was really Miss Comrie, who relieved for six weeks while Miss Jagger was ill.

About the time of the building of the second school, Miss Jagger was married to Mr. Robert Worthington and Mr. Charles H. A. T. Opie of North Canterbury was appointed to the position. He was later joined by his sister, Miss Opie, who was appointed his assistant in 1873. Mr. Opie was for very many years after his retirement a prominent member of the Education Board and in 1910 his son Ron was the champion sprinter of New Zealand.



## TEACHING STAFFS

\*

### HEAD TEACHERS

Miss Catherine Jagger	1868-1870	Mr. R. B. Clarke	.. 1915-1918
Mr. Charles H. Opie	.. 1871-1877	Mr. J. A. Wickes	.. 1918-1920
Mr. A. Henry	.. 1877-1879	Mr. W. W. Garton	.. 1920-1924
Mr. James Thompson	1879-1892	Mr. T. J. C. Wilkins	.. 1924-1927
Mr. C. A. Strack	.. 1892-1896	Mr. A. S. De Montalk	1928-1933
Mr. Gilbert Dalglish	.. 1896-1906	Mr. J. J. McGuigan	.. 1933-1936
Mr. W. Thomas	.. 1906-1909	Mr. S. C. Gibb	.. 1936-1943
Mr. G. T. Palmer	.. 1910-1913	Mr. J. McRae	.. 1943
Mr. James Methven	.. 1913-1915	Mr. W. J. Bennett	.. 1944-

### INFANT MISTRESSES

Miss Amy Haskell	.. 1880-1919	Miss Marjorie Price	.. 1929-1947
Miss Henrietta Kime	.. 1919-1929	Mrs. Mary Fraser	.. 1947-

### FIRST ASSISTANTS

Mr. F. Malcolmson	.. 1928-1941	Mr. E. R. Brain	.. 1943-
-------------------	--------------	-----------------	----------

### SECONDARY ASSISTANTS

Mr. M. G. Irwin	.. 1906-1908	Mr. C. Miller	
Mr. A. G. Tait	.. 1908-1912	Miss K. Joyce	.. 1930
Miss McKibbin	.. 1909-1910	Miss Parlane	.. 1931
Miss Watt	.. 1910-1911	Miss Agnes MacBean	.. 1932-1945
Mr. W. J. Bennett	.. 1912	Miss Ailsa Greenwood	1937-1944
Mr. J. Marwick	.. 1913-1915	Mr. Elphick (Agr. Ins.)	1938-1940
Miss Williams		Mr. R. D. Cox	.. 1938-1941
Miss G. M. Anderson	.. 1915-1921	Mr. Douglas Saunders-	
Miss Struthers	.. 1921-1925	Loder	.. 1941-1945
Mrs. J. T. Wilkins	.. 1925-1927	Miss Edna Wilson	.. 1945-1948
Miss Griffen	.. 1927-1928	Mr. J. L. Bush	.. 1945-1947
Mr. H. J. Priestley	.. 1928-1929	Mr. N. J. Douglas	.. 1947-
Mr. A. K. Easterbrook	1929-1938		

### ASSISTANT MASTERS (PRIMARY)

Mr. Thomas	Mr. H. Amos
Mr. J. Love	Mr. J. Cartwright
Mr. J. Lindsay	Mr. M. G. Irwin
Mr. C. Goldstone	Mr. A. Saunders
Mr. F. Oxby	Mr. Kelly
Mr. W. White	Mr. H. Gilmore

## ASSISTANT MISTRESSES (PRIMARY)

Miss Opie	Miss Crozier
Miss H. Strong	Miss Struthers
Miss Fendall	Miss A. Cooling
Miss I. Strong	Miss L. Gibson
Miss M. McLeod	Miss N. Old
Miss M. Sutherland	Miss Bell
Miss M. Cartwright	Miss Greenall
Miss Morton	Miss M. H. Anderson
Miss E. Meredith	Miss Robertson
Miss A. Jones	Miss M. Cleland
Miss L. Jones	Miss Boucher
Miss L. Mitchell	Miss E. Cleland
Miss L. Smith	Miss Davis
Miss M. Alymer	Miss M. Carter
Miss Laurell	Miss B. Smith
Miss B. Hutton	Miss Hyndman
Miss M. Ray	Miss L. White
Miss A. Oliver	Miss V. Horan
Miss Carter	Miss J. Stewart
Miss Beck	

### PUPIL TEACHERS AND PROBATIONARY ASSISTANTS

Miss Cartwright	.. 1890	Miss E. Dunstan	.. 1929
Mrs. J. McKay	.. 1905	Miss E. O'Connor	.. 1929
Miss C. Orton	.. 1906-1907	Mr. George Gosling	.. 1929
Miss A. Maze	.. 1905	Mr. Wilks	.. 1931
Miss S. Yesberg	.. 1906-1907	Miss M. Cooper	.. 1932
Miss B. Sutherland	.. 1906-1907	Miss Oed	.. 1931
Miss J. Pelvin	.. 1908-1909	Miss M. Cleland	.. 1931-1935
Miss Scannell	.. 1908-1909	Miss Howes	.. 1933
Miss Geaney	.. 1910	Miss Dale	.. 1933
Miss A. Dunn	.. 1910-1911	Miss Cooper	.. 1933
Miss Gibson	.. 1911	Miss Dykes	.. 1935-1936
Miss Norrish	.. 1911-1912	Miss Hay	.. 1935-1936
Miss Crozier	.. 1912	Miss Grocott	.. 1937
Miss E. Hamilton	.. 1913	Miss A. E. J. Collins	.. 1938
Miss Corcoran	.. 1913	Mr. M. C. McCormick	1938
Miss E. McLeod	.. 1916-1917	Miss J. Gibb	.. 1939
Miss G. E. Cartwright	1916-1917	Miss M. Gosling	.. 1940
Miss E. Wright	.. 1919	Miss Elms	.. 1940
Miss T. Smith	.. 1919-1920	Miss Iris Annett	.. 1940
Miss Baldock	.. 1919	Miss L. Andrews	.. 1943
Miss D. Austin	.. 1920	Miss B. A. Taylor	.. 1944
Miss G. Hammond	.. 1920	Miss M. Menzies	.. 1944
Miss E. Millar	.. 1920	Miss A. Malthus	.. 1944
Miss J. McPherson	.. 1921	Miss M. Cooper	.. 1945
Miss N. Smith	.. 1923	Miss P. Gillies	.. 1946
Miss C. Cumming	.. 1926	Miss J. Osborne	.. 1947
Miss C. Lynn	.. 1926	Miss J. Friel	.. 1948



PRESENT STAFF



*Headmaster:* Mr. W. J. BENNETT

*Infant Mistress:* Mrs. M. FRASER

*Secondary Assistants:*

Mr. N. J. DOUGLAS

Miss E. WILSON

*Primary Assistants:*

Mr. E. R. BRAIN

Miss M. L. WHITE

Miss V. HORAN

Mr. H. GILMORE

Miss J. STEWART

Miss J. FRIEL

*Visiting Assistants:*

Mr. G. WALKER (*Woodwork*)

Miss M. CHAMBERS (*Cooking*)

Mr. S. SLOCOMBE (*Commercial*)

Miss MacATEER (*Dressmaking*)

Mr. J. PENNYCOOK (*Agriculture Instructor*)

Mr. R. SHRIMPTON (*Physical Education*)

Mrs. K. CANDY (*Orchestra*)

Miss M. HOWARD (*Dental Nurse*)

PERSONAL NOTES



HEADMASTERS



MR. JAMES THOMPSON

Mr. Thompson came to Pleasant Point from Ashley in North Canterbury in 1879. During his time here, he taught the upper standards while a Mr. Thomas had charge of Standards 3 and 4, Miss Sutherland the lower standards and Miss Haskell was infant mistress. The pupils of his day will remember Mr. Thompson's whistle with which he used to summon them to their studies. Mr. Thompson was an excellent teacher, a strict disciplinarian, and was responsible to a large extent for the progress of the School. During his 13 years the Pleasant Point School was noted for its high moral tone, as well as a high standard of efficiency in work.

In the course of our preparation for the reunion, we have been happy to make contact with members of Mr. Thompson's family, in Christchurch and Timaru.

Mr. Thompson left Pleasant Point to take charge at Rakaia in 1892.

MR. C. A. STRACK

Mr. Strack came as a young man to New Zealand from Victoria. He commenced his teaching at Lovell's Flat, spent some time at Invercargill Middle School, and arrived at Point in 1892. From there he moved to Hawera District High School and on his retirement from teaching, he was appointed Director of the Education Court at the Dunedin Exhibition in 1925. Here his tireless energy made of this court one of the most frequented in the exhibition buildings.

Mr. Strack was a keen athlete, a prominent hurdler and footballer; he was one of the first men in Australasia to jump 45 feet in the hop, step and jump. He must also have been one of the first teachers, if not the first, to take his schoolboys away on camping expeditions, which in those days entailed travelling in wagons, traps and horses. On one such expedition far into the Mackenzie Country, they were snowed in for several days. On another occasion, Mr. Strack took the senior pupils of the School for a day trip to Christchurch, where they visited factories and places of interest.



The interests of the School were in the very forefront of Mr. Strack's life and wherever he went, his schools prospered in numbers, in their high standards, and in the amenities, in and around the School. It is to Mr. Strack we owe the celebration of Arbor Day at Pleasant Point, where all his pupils brought plants to grow in the garden.

In all his work he was most ably assisted and inspired by his wife, herself a teacher from Daylesford, Victoria.

Mr. Strack died in Auckland in 1927, not living long to enjoy his retirement. His motto was: "Whaia te matauranga," which briefly means—"Always after the highest."

#### MR. GILBERT DALGLISH

Mr. Dalglish was born on Banks Peninsula and attended the Akaroa Borough School, where he served as pupil teacher from 1884-1887. In 1894 he completed his B.A. degree at Canterbury University College, and two years later he was appointed headmaster at Pleasant Point where he spent 10 happy but strenuous years. He left Point to take up an appointment at Timaru Main School; in 1919 he became an inspector of schools in Nelson and senior inspector seven years later. In 1930 Mr. Dalglish retired and is now spending a well-earned retirement in Nelson.

In addition to teaching and general management of the School, the headmaster at this time had to train the pupil teachers and prepare them for four pupil teacher examinations and finally for teachers' "D." There were quite a number of teachers in South Canterbury who had not passed all their examinations and Mr. Dalglish was able to help those in his district to complete their certificates.

It is interesting to note that it was during Mr. Dalglish's period that the School cadet corps was formed, the "conveyance system" was instituted and the secondary department was opened with 22 pupils.

In a letter to the Reunion Committee, Mr. Dalglish writes: "The School children were well above the average in intelligence and industry, judging by the scholarships they gained; and the committeemen and parents were sympathetic and helpful. The experience I gained in this, my first school, as headmaster was, I am sure, largely responsible for my promotion to Timaru, and later to the inspectorate in Nelson."

An ex-pupil, in writing of Mr. Dalglish, says: "He was appointed headmaster shortly before I commenced school in 1897, when the roll number was about 185. He was a most efficient teacher who saw that the pupils 'delivered the goods,' and in that

connection he will also be remembered as a man with a strong right arm—very necessary in those days of 'tough' boys who were not lacking in enterprise and in the spirit of adventure. My primary education was all under Mr. Dalglish's supervision; I was taught by him in Standard 5, when as a result of his teaching, I gained a scholarship, and I had the good fortune to be a pupil-teacher under him when he became headmaster of the Timaru Main School in 1906. If a better man than Gilbert Dalglish ever laboured at the Point, I hadn't the good fortune to know him."

#### MR. WILLIAM THOMAS

(For this account of Mr. Thomas's life and work, I have taken an extract from the New Zealand Education Gazette and from speeches quoted in the "Timaruvian," April, 1946.)

Mr. Thomas was born in Dunedin in 1880, and was educated at Waimate District High School and at Canterbury College. He taught in various primary and secondary schools in South Canterbury, and was headmaster of the Pleasant Point District High School and of the Waimataitai School. It was while Mr. Thomas was at Point that he gained the degree of Master of Arts in 1908.

In 1913, he became rector of the Timaru Boys' High School, where during his 22 years of service, he came to be looked upon as one of the outstanding headmasters of New Zealand. His retirement in 1935 meant for Mr. Thomas only the assuming of further responsibilities, for he embarked upon a long and difficult task of research into the conditions of university entrance in New Zealand and overseas. The publication of the book "Entrance to the University," of which he was the chief author, was a challenge to the educationists of New Zealand. The direct result was the setting-up of the consultative committee on the post-primary curriculum, with Mr. Thomas as chairman. The effect of the report on education in this country will be a fitting memorial to the work of a great teacher who was not only a brilliant theorist, but who spoke always with the authority of experience.

"His death," said the Hon. H. G. R. Mason, the Minister of Education at the time, "is a tremendous loss because he occupied a unique position in the educational life of this country."

The Director of Education, Dr. C. E. Beeby, wrote: "He will be remembered by the old pupils of all his schools for his great achievements; by educationists further afield he will be best known by the effect that his work in a wider sphere will have upon all the secondary schools in New Zealand during the next 10 or 20 years. Those of us who were privileged to be his personal friends find some comfort in the thought that the name of William Thomas will not soon be forgotten in the history of New Zealand education."



MR. G. T. PALMER

Mr. G. T. Palmer, who was formerly on the staff of the Timaru Boys' High School, was well known throughout the district for his musical ability and as a popular entertainer. Later, after being headmaster at Timaru South and Caversham, he served on the inspectorate in the south until he retired to settle in Dunedin.

MR. R. B. CLARKE

Mr. R. B. Clarke, now in retirement in Christchurch, was also an inspector in Otago, after being in charge of a large Christchurch school. On the bowling green he has gained many awards, and now spends some of his leisure time in assisting philanthropic organisations.

MR. J. A. WICKES

Mr. J. A. Wickes, Christchurch, cannot forget his term of office here, for the tragic epidemic of 1918 gave him a full time task as organiser of a special hospital established at the School.

MR. W. W. GARTON

Mr. W. W. Garton, also retired in Christchurch, where he served in his earlier teaching days, was for a time headmaster of Timaru Main. In 1938 he took part in the reunion, and expects to be present for the 80th anniversary too.

MR. T. J. WILKINS

Mr. T. J. Wilkins, on leaving Pleasant Point, was in charge of some important Christchurch schools before retiring from Shirley. Mrs. Wilkins, during the latter portion of her residence here, gave valuable service as assistant in the secondary department.

MR. A. S. DE MONTALK

During Mr. Montalk's term as headmaster, lasting nearly five years, he interested himself in practically everything that was for the advancement of the township; he was active in the W.E.A., tennis and football clubs, and was secretary of the golf club.

He took a great interest in the progress of the School farm of which he was secretary and was indeed the driving force which made the farm such a success.

His efforts were always seconded by Mrs. Montalk who put a great deal of energy into money-raising functions—concerts, dances, flower shows—and especially into the Jubilee Celebrations in 1928, when she was secretary of the Jubilee Committee.

Mr. Montalk left in 1933 to become headmaster of the Suva Boys' Grammar School.

MR. J. METHVEN AND MR. J. J. MCGUIGAN

Mr. J. Methven was later headmaster at Temuka for many years, and Mr. J. J. McGuigan is now in charge of Te Aroha D.H.S.

MR. STEWART C. GIBB

Mr. Gibb arrived at Point from Cromwell District High School in May 1936, and was here till September 1943, when he became principal of the Shirley Intermediate School in Christchurch. Four years later he was appointed Inspector of Schools with headquarters at Auckland, transferring to Christchurch in a similar capacity in the following year.

It was during Mr. Gibb's term as headmaster that consolidation commenced, making it necessary for him to cater for the large influx of pupils under rather difficult circumstances until the new building was completed.

Mr. Gibb took a very active interest in the School farm which was extended in 1939 to include much of the land which was bought by Mr. T. D. Burnett, M.P., for Stratheona.

Our secondary roll reached its maximum during Mr. Gibb's period; there were 90 pupils with a secondary staff of four.

The period was definitely one of expansion. The tennis courts—aspalt and grass—were laid down by "unemployed" labour and the unemployed groups were responsible for much work on the grounds. Mr. A. Smith worked under Scheme 13 over several years, and was largely responsible for the laying out of a large part to the south of the middle block of buildings.

Mr. Gibb's interests in the affairs outside the School was shown in a variety of ways—he was secretary of the bowling club for two years and later president; he became master and then past master of the Masonic Lodge.

MR. J. McRAE

Mr. McRae, who passed away suddenly after only a few months here, was a highly valued officer in World War I.

MR. WILLIAM J. BENNETT

Mr. Bennett, who took charge in 1944, had already been on the staff, for he was the secondary assistant in 1912, and a number of his pupils at that time have been associated with him in the preparations for this reunion. Later, he taught in Dunedin and other Otago schools and finally came here from Winton District High School. Throughout, his interest in all School sports has been manifest, he himself being a prominent athlete and coach. In 1912, he taught swimming in the Opihi; in 1945 he saw the contruction of a modern pool in the School grounds.



Mr. Bennett has always tried to encourage agricultural subjects; long ago, with Mr. William Martin, B.Sc., now a well-known authority on New Zealand flora, he began the first garden across the School creek. Recently he attended a refresher course at Lincoln College; took a party of senior boys 800 miles by bus to Otago and Southland farms; and he continues to advocate sound agricultural education for all whose interests are likely to be bound up with rural activities.

Mr. Bennett's interest in the welfare of the pupils is shown in the formation in the secondary department of the travel club, which he has now taken on three holiday trips—to Queenstown, Dunedin and Christchurch. In the last term holidays while in Christchurch, the pupils were able to sing over 3YA and provide a pleasant entertainment. Mrs. Bennett has ably assisted him in carrying out these excursions.

XXXX

#### INFANT MISTRESSES

\*

##### MISS HASKELL

Miss Amy Haskell, the first infant mistress, spent her long teaching career at Pleasant Point and all those who worked with her or had the privilege of being her pupil pay tribute to her sterling character and her very fine work. She was appointed infant mistress in 1880, and although she had retired, she resumed teaching again during the 1914-18 war. At her retirement on 14th April, 1919, the committee recorded the following:—

"It is with very deep regret that my committee has to record the retirement of Miss Haskell, who is now in her fortieth year of sound, faithful and enduring service. Miss Haskell has passed the retiring age of lady teachers by 10 years, but her devotion to education, her loyalty in helping the country during the strenuous war period, and a most self-sacrificing spirit, had prompted her to continue God's work of educating the young, and all my committee can do now, on the eve of her retirement, is to express on behalf of the whole district our heartfelt thanks to so noble a lady, and trust that many years of happiness will be enjoyed by her."

##### MISS KIME

Miss Henrietta Kime, who was appointed infant mistress on Miss Haskell's retirement, commenced her teaching career as a pupil teacher at Springston School. After her training was completed, she served in two positions as infant mistress under the North Canterbury Education Board until, on 30th June, 1919, she commenced teaching at Pleasant Point.

It is interesting to note that about this time the North and South Canterbury Boards amalgamated to form the Canterbury Board.

Miss Kime was in charge of over 80 children—infants and Standard 1, with Miss Edie Wright to help, part time, with Standard 1. She also taught Standard 2 singing and had over 100 children under her control, while Miss Wright played the accompaniment. In 1923, an extra mistress was granted—Miss Agnes Cooling, who is now Mrs. H. C. Dossett. Miss Cooling took charge of Standards 1 and 2, leaving Miss Kime free to give all her time to the infants.

When she retired in 1929, Miss Kime took up residence in Pleasant Point, where she continued to take an interest in and serve the School. This she has done in many ways and particularly in her period as treasurer on the School Committee. She is eagerly looking forward to the 1948 reunion, where she hopes to renew the acquaintance of her five-year-olds, now grown to manhood and womanhood.

##### MISS PRICE

Miss Marjorie Price had taught at Okain's Bay, Geraldine, Woodend and Waimataitai, prior to coming to Pleasant Point in 1929.

With consolidation the infant roll naturally increased and from being a single-room department when Miss Price began teaching at Point, it increased to the present size of three rooms with a roll number of 105. Understanding the five to seven-year-old is at all times very complex, as the teacher must bridge the change from mother to school. In this Miss Price, during her 17½ years, always showed her capabilities as infant mistress, and no child under her care ever felt he was neglected. All her pupils received their share of work and play, and gave the maximum of effort in return.

Miss Price's years at Pleasant Point were full of interest and enjoyment and it is interesting to note that she has now, on her retirement, taken up residence beside the former infant mistress, Miss Kime.



#### MRS. FRASER

Before coming to Pleasant Point as infant mistress last year, Mrs. Mary Fraser gained much experience in infant teaching in Canterbury schools. She was also head teacher of Claremont School, which she left to take up her position here.

From the very first, Mrs. Fraser has attacked any worth-while task, no matter how small, with enthusiasm, energy and knowledge, and can always be relied on to see the job through to completion. By showing understanding and giving a sound training in the infant room, she is laying for future years a foundation which will stand every child in good stead.

XXXX

#### FIRST ASSISTANTS

\*

#### MR. F. MALCOLMSON

Mr. Malcolmson, first assistant from 1928-41 and known in these days as a champion on the bowling green, was a most enthusiastic basketball coach at this School, and in 1948 was official coach for the Combined Ladies' Basketball Team which played against Australia. Since leaving here, he has been teaching at Geraldine and Waimate.

#### MR. E. R. BRAIN

Our present first assistant, Mr. Brain, commenced his teaching career, after his period as pupil teacher and student in Dunedin, in rural schools, mainly in Southland. One of these was Glenorchy on Lake Wakatipu, where deer-stalking and mountaineering bid fair to wrest him from the teaching profession. Then followed four other sole-teacher appointments, the last being Port Levy, from where Mr. Brain came to Pleasant Point as First Assistant in February, 1943.

He is a keen radio amateur and his interest in this and in other branches of science have been most useful in his school work; for some time Mr. Brain taught the science subjects in the secondary department.

#### SOME EX-PUPILS AND TEACHERS

\*

*Mr. Harry Amos*, since moved to wider horizons, has for many years now been an outstanding figure on the New Zealand Olympic Council in Wellington.

*Mr. E. Lee*, formerly of Cricklewood, has recently been appointed stipendiary magistrate at Timaru, while *Mr G. C. McIntyre* is now a Dunedin artist and an advertising expert.

*Mr. J. Marwick*, now Dr. Marwick, is occupying a very important position in the New Zealand Government Geology Division.

*Mr. George Parkyn*, lecturer in education at Otago University, has recently gone to London with a special scholarship.

The Cartwrights have been a prominent family at Pleasant Point School—*Mr. W. J. Cartwright*, now headmaster in the Normal School in Christchurch, was recently president of the N.Z.E.J. *Mr. George Cartwright*, a pupil of the first decade and now retired at Levels, was a former mayor of Temuka.

*Mr. Neale Dollimore* is the clerk of the House of Representatives, while his brother, *Stewart*, is an officer in the Tourist Department.

*Len Scott* has for many years been an accountant in the Agricultural Department, Wellington, *George McCullough* in charge of the large school in Auckland district and *George Maloney* is headmaster of Tolaga Bay, Auckland.

*Edward Cox* is at present in the Railway Traffic Department in Christchurch, *Victor White*, son of the Rev. Wm. White, is manager of the "Press," and *Victor McKibbin*, also of Christchurch, is manager of South Island Motors.

While many have rendered worthy service in the nursing profession, in the Public Service, and in the farming community, others have found their vocation in the church—*Rev. M. Smyth* (son of Rev. Jasper Smyth who was still a cyclist at 93), *Rev. W. H. Norton*, and a candidate, *Ronald McNeur*. In the medical profession are included *Thomas McKibbin*, *Harry Palmer*, *Clark McNeur*, *Alex King* (son of the Manse) and *Donald Wallace* who on first attending this School was arrayed in kilts, and who later filled an important post during the First World War. *Gerald Gibb* is now completing his medical course in Dunedin.



*Tony Simmons* has recently been appointed headmaster in a school in Auckland.

*Bert Priest*, who was in charge of radar on the "Achilles" during the war, married a Scots lass, studied for his degree in Scotland and has taught there for two years.

*Miss Amy Oliver's* connection with the School and district is unique. Her father, surviving the Waimakariri flood of 1868, made his way to South Canterbury, and in 1870 took up the holding which is still occupied by his family, and which was called after his native Surrey. The names of two Olivers appear on the dux board, and, with the exception of a short period at Hazelburn and Seadown, Miss Oliver was herself associated with the School from her early childhood until she finally retired from the teaching service.

We have been pleased to have been in touch with *Jack McIntyre*, headmaster of Kaikorai School, in connection with this Reunion, and hope to see at the celebration *George Cartwright*, headmaster of Owaka District High School.

It is of interest to note that the judge on the commission to investigate the Mountpark dispute is Judge Keith Dalglish, son of our former headmaster.

XXXX

#### MEMORIES OF THE 'EIGHTIES BY AN EX-PUPIL

\*

Mr. R. V. White, who was associated with our School in the 'eighties, and who is now manager of "The Press," Christchurch, has contributed the following:—

I have been asked to write something of the Point as I remember it, and my memory should take me back to the years 1886-1891. I have been surprised at how much I do remember, but on second thoughts I do not propose to write here anything at all complete about persons and places in those days. There are men living who remember those years just as vividly, and probably more accurately than I can, and among them men who have lived all their lives in the Point, or the near neighbourhood.

One must remember, in discussing those days that they were grim times. The freezing process for the preservation of perishable foodstuffs had been invented, some works had been established in New Zealand, including that at Washdyke, but generally speaking the industry was not established. This meant that sheep-raising

did not produce anything like the rewards it brings to-day. The dairy industry for export was likewise only struggling for a footing. The country was poor, and the people in it likewise poor. Nobody dared to hope that New Zealand would ever be able to support in reasonable plenty the population it carries to-day.

There was no motor transport. An occasional motor car appeared in the early years of the century, but not until after the Kaiser's war did motor traffic, in heavy and light vehicles, take control of road transport. So it happened that most people wishing to go to Timaru travelled by train. Those in districts not served by rail, Totara Valley for instance, used to drive to the Point, leave the buggy and horse in a stable there, and take the train to Timaru. The only bicycle in Pleasant Point when I first remember it, belonged to Mr. Tom Williamson, who was telegraphist at the combined railway station and post office. Later an assistant in Mr. McKibbin's store, Mr. Shackleton, also bought and rode a bicycle. Both were high wheeled "penny-farthing." People walked more then. I do remember that some boys rode ponies to School, keeping them on long tether ropes in the School grounds.

Amusements were few. I do not remember that there was a cricket club in the village. I saw the first game of Rugby football ever played in the Point, between a local team and a team from Timaru. I am sure that most of the players on the Point side also saw their first game of football on that day. The Timaru boys stripped to show a striking uniform, maroon and gold jerseys I think, and the local men turned out in any old jerseys they could get, some without jerseys at all, and nearly all, if not all, in long trousers. Of course the Timaru fellows won; they could have won by many more points if they had cared to exert themselves. The only two players in the Point team I can remember were Charles Goldstone, then a junior teacher in the School, and Hector McLeod, a very nuggety strong young man, with some skill as a wrestler. He was about the only man in the local side whom the visitors could not handle easily.

That game was played in the park, if I remember aright. The boundaries of the field had been marked with a plough, and temporary goal-posts set up. We had a football at School, but no properly marked or equipped ground. Two heaps of stones, or of boys' coats, had to serve as goal-posts, and boundaries were marked in the same way. Rules we had very few. The headmaster, Mr. Thompson, acquired a whistle, or perhaps it was the same he used to call us in to School; and tried to reduce the play to some order, but I am afraid he did not know much about Rugby.



Not many schoolmasters of that day knew the game, which was relatively new in New Zealand, and not so very old in England.

I have just mentioned the park. As I remember it, the park was an area of rough turf, with a deep border of young trees round the boundaries. I have not been in the park since then, but I have passed it by road, and those saplings have grown into noble trees. I am sure that the interior is also reduced to better order.

The times, as I have said, were hard. Only simple pleasures were possible for ordinary folk. Few nowadays can remember back to the times when there were no moving pictures. Talking films are not yet 25 years old. Evening entertainments were confined to concerts, sometimes with only local talent, and sometimes with Olympians from Timaru. But one series of concerts offered special joy to small boys like me. Often at the end of the programme would be presented a one-act farce comedy. These were hilarious fun. I fancy that these shows were in aid of the library funds, because I do know that these playlets were written by Mr. Edward Acton, for many years chairman of the Library Trust, or whatever the governing body was called. I cannot remember the title of a single one of them. I knew all the performers by name, but I can remember only two of them now—Mr. Fred Dossett, a carpenter or wheelwright by occupation, and Mr. Andrews, a blacksmith. I dare say Mr. Acton had a good deal to do in coaching these unskilled actors. Whoever did it achieved wonderful success. The result was boisterous fun. Some of Mr. Acton's wit was lost on me at the time. I remember that in one of the comedies Fred Dossett had to pose as a living statue as "Ajax Defying His Mother-in-law." It was some years before I learned who or what Ajax did defy. Many of his jokes had reference to Greek mythology, and all of them had a local angle or a general application as real wit. I did not know Mr. Acton in those days, but I had the privilege of meeting him about the year 1900, the last and only visit I have made to the Point since leaving it as a small boy. He was a gentleman of the old school, and a very charming and amusing host. It was at his dinner table that I first heard a grown-up son address his father as "Sir." I am sure Mr. Acton was not a stern parent. It was a happy family circle.

An annual event to which we small boys looked forward was the Sunday School treat or picnic. Ours was always held on Boxing Day. All the children, with some others not so young met at an appointed place, and there we piled into two or three waggons to be driven to the picnic place. I am sure nothing of the sort could happen now. Waggons, teams, and drivers were

decorated with flowers and greenery, and all restraints were eased. I am sure we made dreadful noises with our shouts and yells of joy. Our return in the evening was perhaps not so noisy.

It will, I am afraid, be impossible for me to attend this celebration. I hope it will be successful and that at least some of my contemporaries may have survived to attend.

XXXXX

#### SOME RANDOM DATES FROM THE MINUTE BOOKS FROM 1905

\*

Much of the history of the School buildings and of the School itself can be conjectured from a study of the various extracts from what records are still available in the possession of the committee. Unfortunately, the minute books up to 1905 are missing, but from 25th December, 1905, they are intact, and from them I have taken the following:—

- 1905—School closed for a week in the Christmas holidays to allow teachers to attend handwork and nature study classes.
- 1906—The members of the committee and the headmaster inspected three sites for a new school and all agreed that the Glebe sections over the bridge was the best, but church property trustees refused to sell.
- 1907—It was proposed that the Board be asked to buy five acres of Mr. McKibbin's land; this offer was accepted by the Board, price not to exceed £45 per acre.
- 1909—A prize of £1/1/0 was offered to the scholars for the best plan for beautifying the grounds.
- 1910—It was suggested that slates should be done away with, and the Board asked to provide the paper. This was refused.
- 1911—Two hundred trees were planted along the side of the playground as a Coronation Memorial.  
The Education Board was written to requesting them either to fix the bedrooms in the schoolhouse or to supply the master with a tent for the summer months.
- 1914—Headmaster's residence has now been completed.
- 1915—Annual meeting:—This meeting strongly expresses its disapproval of the abolition of the South Canterbury Education Board and thinks that the proposed step is not an advantage to this educational district.
- 1919—No prizes to be given owing to changes in the staff, broken time and the influenza epidemic.



- 1920—It was agreed to have two panes of glass put in and that the boy who broke the window be made to pay 2/6.
- 1923—Cocoa has been supplied to over 60 children during the winter months.
- 1925—A circular was received from the department stating that the term holidays would commence on 17th August, and Christmas holidays on 17th December. The chairman and two others were authorised to arrange for altering the date of the holidays should the weather prove unsatisfactory for school attendance during July.
- 1926—Thirty-two pupils from Standard 2 upwards went to Dunedin for the exhibition.
- 1927—The School Committee withdrew from the South Canterbury School Committees' Association as a protest against the delegates from that association voting at the South Island Conference in favour of the remit: "That no town with a population of less than 5,000 be granted permission to establish a district high school."  
Thirty pupils left to attend the Convent School.
- 1929—Four School concerts and a flower show were held during the year.
- 1932—Maroon to be the School colour. Vote of congratulation passed to Messrs. George Maloney and Jim Raeside on their attaining their M.A. and B.Sc. degrees respectively.  
Owing to the depression there were no prizes awarded and no annual excursion; but a break-up ceremony was held in Arnott's paddock.
- 1935—Schools' Post Office Savings Bank Scheme was inaugurated.
- 1936—Merit cards awarded instead of prizes.
- 1937—Mr. Poole commenced duties as an itinerant commercial instructor.
- 1941—Apples in school scheme commenced.

××××

### THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

\*

For 80 years School Committeemen have worked patiently, without any hope of reward, for the good of the School. They have created and fostered a live local interest in the educational welfare of the children. For the story of the various committees that have assisted to direct the destinies of our School, we are dependant in the early years on our early pupils and on the records they possess; and so until 1905, the record is incomplete.

We know that Mr. Edward Acton was the first chairman and that he was probably followed by Mr. George Butler, who worked tirelessly towards the progress of the School for many years. Other chairmen have records of long and faithful service to the School—Mr. L. Laurenson for 14 years, Mr. W. Oborn for 12, while Mr. Ellis Halstead for 17 years and Mr. W. J. Halkett for 11 years acted as secretaries. Mr. John Maze, who was both chairman and secretary of the Point committee, served on the Canterbury Education Board for many years.

Women have from time to time worked on the committee, and at one time the chairman was a woman.

### CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEE

Mr. Edward Acton ..	1868	Mr. G. Crozier ..	1906-1908
Mr. George Butler		Mr. G. Saunders ..	1908-1910
Rev. Mr. White		Mr. L. Laurenson ..	1910-1924
Mr. Meek		Mr. W. Oborn ..	1924-1936
Mr. Strachan		Mr. Christie ..	1936-1938
Mr. William Angland		Mrs. W. T. Taylor ..	1938-1940
Mr. William Halstead		Mr. H. Fort ..	1940-1944
Mr. Walter Ray ..	1897-1900	Mr. W. J. Halkett ..	1944-1946
Mr. William McKibbin	1901	Mr. A. C. Shaw ..	1946-1948
Mr. George Croizer ..	1902-1904	Mr. V. Wilson ..	1948-
Mr. John Maze ..	1905-1906		

### SECRETARIES

Mr. John Maze ..	1906-1907	Mr. W. J. Halkett ..	1933-1944
Mr. Ellis Halstead ..	1907-1924	Mr. R. J. Williams ..	1944-1946
Mr. John Jull ..	1924-1925	Mr. E. C. Lienert ..	1946-
Mr. G. W. Wakefield ..	1925-1933		

### TREASURERS

Mr. E. Halstead ..	1920-1921	Mrs. Taylor ..	1933-1937
Mr. W. W. Garton ..	1921-1924	Mr. W. Crawford ..	1938-1940
Mr. Wilkins ..	1925-1928	Mrs. G. H. Schurr ..	1940-1942
Mr. W. B. Oborn ..	1928-1929	Rev. I. Dixon ..	1942-1944
Mrs. Batchelor ..	1929-1930	Mr. Brown ..	1944-1946
Mrs. Arnott ..	1930-1932	Mr. D. C. Doake ..	1946-
Miss Kime ..	1932-1933		

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 1948

Mr. V. W. WILSON, *Chairman*  
Mr. E. C. LIENERT, *Secretary*  
Mr. D. C. DOAKE, *Treasurer*

Messrs. R. H. ROBERTS, C. H. COOK, N. L. BAILEY,  
H. M. SMITH, J. BLACKWOOD, J. G. MUNRO.



## HOUSEHOLDERS' MEETINGS

\*

Householders' meetings have been held regularly since the first meeting when it was decided to erect a school. They have been attended on the whole by a fair number of parents and those interested in the School, although the numbers extend from eight in 1942, to 80 in 1938, and 100 at a special meeting in 1935. It is interesting to note that at the annual meeting in 1907 the chairman, Rev. M. White, welcomed the fact that the ladies had at last wakened up to a sense of their rights and were present in large numbers.

Up till 1934 the householders' meetings were held annually, but although it was decided in that year that the committees were to be elected for two years, there was a householders' meeting held in 1935, at which the work that had been carried on in the School during the year was discussed. However, there were only 13 present and since then, the meetings have been usually biennial.

XXXX

## CARETAKERS

\*

The School has been served very faithfully throughout its history by a number of caretakers. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman had a long term in the 'eighties, Mrs. Childs and Miss Jones carried on the work in the early part of the century and Miss Stratford in 1910. From that date, we have a more accurate record of those who followed.

Mr. W. Kennedy	..	1917-1920	Mr. A. Smith	..	1943
Mr. R. Paisley	..	1921-1923	Mr. W. T. Anderson	..	1943
Mrs. Barker	..	1923-1932	Mr. A. Lewis	..	1943-1946
Mrs. J. Bell	..	1932-1939	Mr. C. Pillidge	..	1946-1947
Miss R. Popplewell	..	1939-1941	Mr. K. Esler	..	1947-
Miss Liston	..	1942-1943			

We regret the death of Mr. Alex. Lewis, while he was still our caretaker two years ago, and we gratefully acknowledge the clock which was presented to the School in his memory.

XXXX

## COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

\*

In May 1907, Miss Rennie started cookery instruction and in 1911 there were established the woodwork and dressmaking classes, and the agriculture course under the Board's instructor, Mr. J.

Brown. In connection with this latter course, one more acre of land adjoining the playground was bought from Mr. McKibbin, in order to provide a suitable area for experimental work. By 1912, the courses had widened to include first aid and music, both classes proving very popular. Miss Jeannie Anderson, a popular Timaru soloist, who conducted the singing class, is now resident in Sydney and, as Dr. Craig, paid a short visit to Pleasant Point last year.

A new development in connection with the cookery and woodwork classes took place in 1914 when outside schools were able to take advantage of this instruction by sending their pupils to attend the classes.

Mr. F. C. Roberts, who was woodwork instructor for many years, wrote the following concerning his period at Pleasant Point:—

The pupils during my time were noted for their practical work, making the entrance gates to the farm school and the gates to the infants' playground; they erected the cycle sheds and made much School equipment.

The present Prime Minister, who as Minister of Education was visiting the School, spent some time inspecting the work of the woodwork class. The class at the time happened to be high school pupils. After carefully examining each boy's work, Mr. Fraser said that the work being done by the pupils was the most practical and best that he had ever seen in any manual centre in New Zealand.

The pupils' work was also exhibited at a teachers' refresher course held in Timaru, where it was greatly appreciated.

In conclusion, I beg to state that now in retirement, having plenty of time for retrospection, I recall with deep appreciation the honour of having had the privilege of teaching such fine gentlemanly pupils, who always upheld the high traditions of the Pleasant Point District High School, and whose enthusiasm and conduct in the centre was a reflection of the high standard set by the ladies and gentlemen who comprised the Pleasant Point District High School staff.

XXXX

## COMMERCIAL CLASSES

\*

The commercial course was commenced at the beginning of 1929 when a bar-lock typewriter was procured. The following year it became necessary to use the headmaster's office as a type-writing room for the commercial students.



Now, an itinerant instructor travels between Pleasant Point, Fairlie and Temuka, with headquarters at Temuka, and commercial is taught to School Certificate standard.

Mr. Poole commenced as the first itinerant instructor in 1939 and has been followed by Mr. Vautier and Mr. S. Slocombe.

Woolclassing was taught for a time; this class began with a roll number of 26 and Mr. Ellis Halstead as instructor.

XXXX

## EVENING CLASSES



At the annual meeting of householders in April 1906, the incoming committee were "requested to give its best attention to the establishment of technical classes" and two months later a public meeting was called to form a Technical Association. It was decided to use the School in the evenings for the classes, and permission was granted by the committee at 1/6 a night. These classes progressed very satisfactorily but the war checked the evening classes and then in 1932 came the disastrous fire which gutted the manual school building, the replacement of which is still awaited.

XXXX

## TECHNICAL SCHOOL DESTROYED BY FIRE



Only two chimneys, to one of which a hot-water cylinder is attached, remain standing of the Pleasant Point Technical School which was completely destroyed by fire on Saturday afternoon.

While the headmaster, Mr. de Montalk, was having his mid-day meal, at about 12.20, a number of boys, who happened to be passing, noticed smoke issuing from the weatherboards on the north-west portion of the building, in which portion was housed the science room. One of their number, Tony Simmons, immediately gave the alarm to the headmaster, who by telephone, soon had a number of willing workers, and also the local fire-engine on the scene. However, as the building was old and entirely built of wood, it was soon evident that, with the fire fanned by an easterly breeze, it was impossible to save the building, so efforts were made to saving as much of the contents as possible.

The science room, meantime, was a mass of flames, so first attention was paid to the adjoining cookery room, from which

everything movable, including forms, chairs, cupboards, heavy tables and an electric range, etc., was got out, many of them having to be pushed through windows. Next, attention was paid to the woodwork room, where there was fortunately a double door, which expedited the removal of the heavy carpentry benches and tools, etc., which were housed in this department.

The dental clinic room, which had been erected at the local committee's expense, was burst open, as a key was not available, and everything movable was shifted out of there. Unfortunately, much valuable material was locked up in fixture cupboards in all three departments, and the flames spread so rapidly that nothing could be done with these.

By 1.20, an hour after the discovery of the outbreak, not a wall was standing, so some idea can be got of the rapidity of the spread of the blaze. So hot were the flames that all the surrounding fences were soon afire, and also an electric light pole on the road. The paling fence separating the grounds from the headmaster's residence had to be chopped away, as it constituted a menace to the safety of the residence.

As a result of the fire, both the Education Department and the School Committee will be heavy losers. It is not known what amount of insurance, if any, the Department had on the buildings and fittings but the Committee, through whose efforts the clinic was built and much of the contents of the buildings was procured, had no cover at all. No praise is too great for the way in which residents helped to save everything possible from the burning building.

—From the "Timaru Herald," 12th September, 1932.

XXXX

## SCHOOL CADETS

The School Cadet Corps, formed in 1905, was under the control of Major George Irwin, who was in charge of the secondary department and who was later appointed headmaster of Shirley School, Christchurch. John McIntyre, the senior pupil, was made colour-sergeant and in the following January, when the Point cadet team was sixth on the list for the South Island Shield, he was runner-up for the shooting championship with a score of 84, one point behind the winner. The boys wore their School uniforms, but were provided with special caps. In 1908, they went in charge of Major Irwin to Hagley Park in Christchurch to see Lord Kitchener on his visit to New Zealand.



## TRANSPORT



The beginning of the conveyance system for children over two miles from School took place during Mr. Dalglish's term as headmaster, when parents were paid sixpence per pupil per day for conveying the children, mostly by pony or gig.

In 1906, Mr. Dalglish brought before the committee the need for a horse paddock, as the number of horses being left in the playground was a source of danger. First of all, the county council was asked for the temporary use of the shingle pit; then the board was asked to provide a paddock; later, at the new School, a section was fenced off to hold pupils' horses, and a harness room was built. This room was most necessary to house the harness and saddles; sometimes as many as a dozen or more horses would be in the paddock.

However, time marches on. The fence of the horse paddock, which is now the agricultural plot, was removed in 1945; already a bicycle stand had been constructed. For 40 years there have been train pupils, even from Fairlie. In 1917, the District Traffic Manager of the New Zealand Railways inquired from the School Committee as to which mornings it would be most suitable for the train to run for the benefit of pupils; the question arose through the dislocation of rail services due to a coal strike.

In the course of the last two decades, considerable changes in transport have taken place with the advent of buses, until, early in 1948, our newest vehicle arrived—the first all-steel school bus to be used in New Zealand, having a seating capacity of 49. The eight routes to-day, covering 400 miles daily, provide for 280 pupils, including 36 from the Convent School. Three buses are privately owned, while four are provided by the Education Department, two being driven by teacher-drivers; at present, one bus serves two routes, but this should be remedied shortly. Imagine pupils from Rockwood, Waitohi, Kerrytown, Levels Valley, Rosewill, Cave, Sutherlands and Kakahu conveyed here, some from homes 16 miles distant.

××××

## VISUAL EDUCATION



Great progress has been made in the presenting of material to the pupils and not least among the many changes that have taken place in education is the provision of modern aids, especially the film strip projector, and the sound film projector.

In November 1924, the Director of Educational Pictures visited the School for the purpose of screening a picture entitled "Across Two Oceans." A charge of sixpence was made, a penny of which was given to School funds. He was permitted on that occasion, but nothing definite was decided regarding future screenings at School. However, nearly 20 years later, November 1943, a filmstrip projector was bought, and this has proved of great value both to pupils and teachers. By means of filmstrips provided by the Canterbury Education Board large numbers of films in practically every school subject have been shown at the School. This year an important forward step has been made—a Bell-Howell machine, one of the best obtainable, has been procured, costing £255, half of which was raised by local effort.

××××

## THE FARM SCHOOL



To Mr. T. D. Burnett, M.P., we owe the formation of the Farm School. In August 1932, he secured a lease for five years of the property adjoining the School, approximately 34 acres, which he offered free of all costs to the committee for that period. Mr. Burnett suggested that a committee of practical farmers could be formed to manage the farm in conjunction with the School Committee and, although he left them free to act as they wished, he had it in his mind that perhaps something could be done to assist local unemployed boys.

A management committee, comprising Messrs. F. Agnew, H. Wooffindin, T. Kelliher, M. Maze and A. H. Roberts, was set up, with Mr. Roberts as chairman, in which capacity he served ably until the beginning of 1939. This committee worked energetically, holding meetings and doing great work of a practical nature. The meetings were opportunities for the farmer members to meet together socially and to pool their suggestions and experiences. Opinions did not always coincide but a very happy and friendly spirit pervaded the gatherings.

The School was at all times brought into the closest contact with the farm. In connection with the experimental work carried out, it was kept constantly in touch, and all the research and calculation work was carried out by the boys under the supervision of the School staff in order to give them an introduction to scientific farming.

As extensions of the farm course, the School was given lectures at the saleyards by experts, saw practical demonstrations at various farms, enjoyed field days at Rangiora and at Lincoln College and was able to benefit by the practical experience of the local farmers.



Prizes were donated annually by the Pleasant Point Branch of the Farmers' Union, and the members of the committee orally tested the boys on the work carried out on the farm during the year. As a result, the agriculture marks in examinations improved greatly, evidence that a good foundation of agricultural knowledge was being laid by the use of the School Farm augmenting the work required by the examination syllabus. It is interesting to note that Professor R. E. Alexander, who marked the 1935 University Entrance paper in agriculture, remarked on the fact that the papers showed a greater improvement in that they revealed a departure from bookish information; and that the marks of all the Point candidates were 20 per cent. above the average for New Zealand.

At first it was the practice for the boys to give lecturettes to the committee at their monthly meeting on the work of the farm, but owing to the distance so many pupils had to travel this was abandoned. The farm, however, made steady progress. The allotting of the work was quietly organised by the chairman, and this was performed efficiently and conscientiously by each monthly visitor.

The committee were most appreciative of the Agriculture Department's assistance which it was always ready to offer in the person of Mr. W. C. Stafford, and of the advice and suggestions that were given by the instructor in agriculture under the Canterbury Education Board, first Mr. G. Ridley and later Mr. R. B. Steele.

A great obstacle to receiving the full benefit of the possession of a school farm was the need of a farm supervisor with a knowledge of modern developments in agricultural science. But what seemed to be a red-letter day for the farm was the visit of the Minister of Education, the Hon. Peter Fraser, and of the Director of Education, Mr. N. T. Lambourne, in 1937. The necessity for an all-time agricultural specialist at the School was stressed before the Minister who promised to do all he could to promote the farm scheme which Pleasant Point was unique in starting, and at the beginning of 1938 Mr. Elphick was appointed agricultural instructor.

A new development in the history of the farm was the establishment of "Stratheona" in 1938, in conjunction with which the farm was to be run. Mr. J. Roberts was employed to do the work in both places.

During the year, agriculture clubs were formed in connection with potatoes, calves, poultry and flowers, and a small agricultural show was held at the School.

The work of the committee in the years 1938-1939 was signalised by high hopes at the beginning, leading as time went on to grave disappointments. With the Government's apparent approval of Mr. Burnett's proposal and the appointment of a full-time agricultural instructor to the School, it seemed that before long there would be a properly equipped Farm School in connection with the District High School. But it was obvious that a farm school could not be made out of a piece of land and half a dozen boys, and it was becoming clear that it could prosper only if it served a very much wider field; in other words, if it was a provincial concern rather than a local one. When Mr. Burnett offered to lease the farm land to the Education Department and received no acknowledgment of his offer, he withdrew it, with the result that the farm was then managed solely as a private enterprise for the benefit of Stratheona Hostel. The last meeting of the committee was held in September 1942, when it was decided that the balance of the Farm School Committee funds be transferred to a National Savings Account, and at the expiry of the period to be given towards the School baths or any objects in connection with the School of which the trustees approved.

But the work of those interested in the Farm School has not been forgotten and agricultural science is still an important subject at the School. Through the work mainly of Mr. W. J. Bennett, the present headmaster, a bursary has been founded to enable pupils to study at Lincoln College. Mr. Bennett has also published an arithmetic book for use in rural courses in post-primary schools, and this is now in use throughout New Zealand from Northland Agriculture College at Kaikohe to the far south.

××××

## CONSOLIDATION

\*

On 31st August, 1925, a combined meeting was held of delegates of the committees of the surrounding districts in order to discuss consolidation and the meeting passed the motion approving of the proposal to consolidate at Pleasant Point. However, it was not until 6th April, 1936, when the Opihi School was destroyed and 19 Opihi children were admitted that consolidation began. It was felt that the pupils would have better facilities for education in the larger school, especially in cookery, woodwork and sports, and that it would be an advantage to be able to travel by bus.



Nine schools have been consolidated at Point.

Opihi	.. .. .	6th April, 1936
Cave	.. .. .	1st March, 1937
Sutherlands	.. .. .	1st February, 1938
Kakahu	.. .. .	1st February, 1938
Totara Valley	.. .. .	1st February, 1938
Rockwood	.. .. .	1st February, 1938
Hazelburn	.. .. .	1st February, 1938
Rosewill	.. .. .	1st February, 1939
Upper Waitohi	.. .. .	8th June, 1942

XXXX

### SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

\*

Pleasant Point School has always been considered one of the best schools in the district for scholarship and general tone and efficiency. This is borne out, not only by the very complimentary inspectors' reports through its whole history, nor by the high percentage of passes in examinations, but by the fact that so many of the pupils and the teachers who have passed through the School have made a name for themselves in their own district, in New Zealand, and even further afield.

The following accounts of examination passes have been taken at random from the annual reports and show to some extent how Pleasant Point, with the assistance in recent years of consolidation, has proved that within the confines of one school, a child can be thoroughly educated from the infant stage to the University Entrance standard.

### EXAMINATION PASSES, 1908

In the sixth standard examination, 20 were presented, 18 gained proficiency and 2 competency certificates. In the junior scholarship examination 5 qualified, 3 gaining Education Board scholarships, while one boy, John Steven, received the national scholarship for South Canterbury. In the High School the pupils were very successful. In the senior civil service, Bernard Jones, 15 years of age, passed the whole of the six subjects, while another pupil passed three subjects; four girls gained partial passes in D Certificate; all the Matriculation students (3) passed; in the junior civil service examination 3 passed; 5 pupils qualified for senior scholarship. Five girls have been appointed pupil teachers in South Canterbury schools.

—An extract from the Annual Report, 1909.

1917

Matriculation: 2 passes; 1 partial pass.  
 Senior Free Place: 8 passes, one with credit.  
 Junior Free Place: 4 passes.  
 Junior Civil Service: 2 passes—these candidates were second and third for South Canterbury.  
 Standard VI.: 15 presented—15 gained Proficiency Certificates.

Annual Report, 1918

1936	Candidates	Passes
Proficiency Certificates	22	21
Senior Free Place	15	15
School Certificate	2	2
Matriculation	5	3
Higher Leaving Certificate	3	3
Training College Entrance	3	3
Accepted for entry to Training College	4	4

Annual Report, 1937

1947	Candidates	Passes
Primary School Certificate	26	26
School Certificate Examination	3	3
University Entrance	5	4
Endorsed School Certificate	5	5
Accepted for entry to Training College	5	5

XXXX

### PRIZES AND DUX AWARDS

\*

From the beginning, prizes were awarded for class work. These took the form of books and were given out in the very early days at the "big day" of the year, just before the School broke up for the Christmas holidays.

After the prize-giving, the sports were held and for all the events good prizes were given, perhaps a ball or even a cricket bat. Mr. Strack, especially, was very keen on competitive work and it was he who instituted the dux awards.



# PRIMARY DUX LIST

Amy Oliver .. ..	1894	Howard Cox .. ..	1923
Allan Orton .. ..	1896	Ellen Miller .. ..	1924
William McKibbin ..	1897	Frank Chisholm ..	1925
John Dempsey .. ..	1898	Ethel Crossman ..	1926
Victor Oliver .. ..	1899	Edith Kee .. ..	1927
Victor McIntyre .. ..	1900	Jean Sullivan .. ..	1928
Norman Maze .. ..	1901	Ray Blakemore ..	1929
Lena Norton .. ..	1902	Dorothy Maze .. ..	1930
Elizabeth McIntyre ..	1903	George Knox .. ..	1931
Dudley Oliver .. ..	1904	Richard Scott and	
Hester McIntyre .. ..	1905	Ronald McNeur ..	1932
Ivy Saunders .. ..	1906	Natalie Smith .. ..	1933
Margaret Hall .. ..	1907	Theo Chisholm .. ..	1934
Robert Struthers ..	1908	Pamela Benham ..	1935
Rosa Vague .. ..	1909	Gerald Gibb .. ..	1936
Elizabeth Forno .. ..	1910	Joyce Esler .. ..	1937
George McCullough ..	1911	Eunice Struthers ..	1938
Mary Hall .. ..	1912	Olwyn Westaway ..	1939
George Steven .. ..	1913	Mervyn Guy .. ..	1940
Doris Methven .. ..	1914	Louie Innes .. ..	1941
John Andrews .. ..	1915	Norman Chapman ..	1942
Eward Cox .. ..	1916	Marion Shaw .. ..	1943
Agnes Miller .. ..	1917	Margaret Wylie ..	1944
Anne Miller .. ..	1918	Colleen Patrick ..	1945
Clifford Roberts .. ..	1919	Hazel Johnson .. ..	1946
George Maloney .. ..	1920	Claire Shaw and	
George Batchelor ..	1921	Marion Hoskin ..	1947
Elsie Gunn .. ..	1922		

# SECONDARY DUX LIST

E. Sullivan .. ..	1907	Frank Chisholm ..	1928
B. Jones .. ..	1908	Ethel Crossman ..	1929
W. Scannell .. ..	1909	Edith Kee .. ..	1930
John P. Steven .. ..	1910	Rowan Bryant .. ..	1931
C. Malling .. ..	1911	Eoin Chisholm ..	1932
Rosa Vague .. ..	1912	Dorothy Hullen ..	1933
L. Scott .. ..	1913	George Knox .. ..	1934
G. Cartwright .. ..	1914	B. F. Simmons ..	1935
Vera Andrews .. ..	1915	Myra Gosling .. ..	1936
Edith Wright .. ..	1916	Ellen Cleland .. ..	1937
Thirza E. Smith .. ..	1917	Brenda Waters ..	1938
Isabella Stewart ..	1918	Ann Smith .. ..	1939
Ellen E. Aitken .. ..	1919	Beatrice Andrews ..	1940
Jessie McPherson ..	1920	Francis Muller ..	1941
Nancy Smith .. ..	1921	Neroli Gillingham ..	1942
Clifford Roberts .. ..	1922	Isabel Marshall ..	1943
George Maloney .. ..	1923	Mervyn Guy .. ..	1944
Mary Roberts .. ..	1924	Louie Innes .. ..	1945
J. D. Raeside .. ..	1925	Max Malthus .. ..	1946
George Parkyn .. ..	1926	Marion Smith .. ..	1947
John Lienert .. ..	1927		

# PRIZE-GIVINGS

An extract from the "Timaru Herald," Wednesday, 26th December, 1888:—

# "ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES

"The breaking up for the holidays and the annual distribution of prizes at the School took place on Friday. Rev. J. White, M.A., chairman of the local committee, presided, and among those present were Mr. Acton, the Rev. Jasper Smyth, member of the Education Board, and some parents and friends of the School. The chairman called on the children to open proceedings by singing "Farewell to Study for a While," rendered in good spirit and capital time, Miss Cartwright, one of the teachers, playing the accompaniment. The chairman made a few appropriate remarks in the course of which he congratulated the School on the good examination it had passed and the favourable report of the inspector. In addition to this he had himself for three days conducted a very searching examination for prizes and the answering was most creditable to teachers and pupils. He then distributed prizes adding a few words of encouragement to all recipients.

"Two special prizes were given by Mr. Ross, Mayor of Timaru, and the late Miss Morton, who had been a teacher in the School and whose sudden death was feelingly alluded to by Mr. Thompson, the headmaster. These were won by Rebecca Jones and Annie Lambert—the best writers.

"The chairman then called on Mr. Acton and the Rev. Jasper Smyth to say a few words. The former endorsed the opening remarks of the chairman as to the good examination the School had passed. He was present part of the time during both examinations and was thoroughly satisfied with the pupils' answering. They would compare favourably with the children in any school and at competitive examinations for scholarships they always did well. Much as he valued education and book learning, there was one thing he valued more, and that was the high moral tone which pervaded the School. It was not confined to the head teacher only but it existed among all the staff and their influence for good was felt by the whole School. He then made a few critical remarks on the teaching of grammar in all our public schools and concluded by wishing the children a happy holiday time.

"Mr. Acton upheld the remarks of the previous speaker and pointed out that the fact that the head teacher and one assistant had been nine years in the School spoke for itself.

"After Mr. Thompson had replied, the ceremony was concluded with the national anthem."



## REUNIONS

\*

### REUNION 1928

When we recall the sixtieth anniversary celebrations held in October 1928, we remember first of all the weather. After weeks of preparation it was regrettable that the committee's work should be spoiled to a large extent by adverse weather conditions, but despite heavy rain, hundreds of people joined in the festivities which were of a varied nature. Ex-pupils from all over New Zealand were present and one of the speakers was Mr. M. M. McLeod, M.A. (Senior Inspector of Schools for Canterbury and an ex-pupil of the School), who spoke of his pride in being an old boy of a school with such a fine record.

After the procession, the large crowd gathered in the railway goods sheds where the headmaster, Mr. A. S. de Montalk, acted as chairman and where Mr. T. D. Burnett, from the top of a pile of bags of chaff, remarked that he had never before seen such a remarkable collection of goods in a railway shed.

During a break in the weather, a party of Maoris from Temuka gave an enjoyable entertainment and in the evening a social was held.

Taking advantage of the fine weather the following day, a large number of people attended, firstly in the main streets to view the processions, and afterwards at the School grounds where displays of drill and dancing were given by the children. The boys, under the charge of Mr. H. Priestley, drill-master, were responsible for the drill, while the dancing exercises of the girls carried out to the accompaniment of a piano, reflected great credit on their teacher, Miss Oliver.

### REUNION 1938

The seventieth anniversary of the School was fittingly recognised on Saturday, 24th October, when 500 people attended for the official welcome. Mr. M. F. Maze, chairman of the Celebrations Committee, presided over the gathering, and the principal speaker was Mr. G. W. Armitage, chairman of the Canterbury Education Board. A feature of the jubilee was that six of the original 13 pupils who attended when the School was first opened, answered the roll call.

Those in the first decade (1868-1878) who were present were:—Mesdames Moloney (Lizzie Thomas), Crozier (Edith Smith), Andrew (Maggie Anderson), T. Burgess (Emma Smith), Shute (Jane Black), Purves (Frances Black), McMaster (Isabella Bain), Halstead (Annie Butler), Stewart (Mary Sutherland), Maude (Laurison Gerken), Macdonald (Emma Gerken), Boyd (Georgina Sama), Lyall (Jessie Gammie), and Oborn (Bella Gammie); Miss Euphemia Young; Messrs. F. A. Foweraker, John Sutherland, A. Worthington, W. Cartwright, G. Butler and J. Munro.

At night a banquet was held in the Town Hall, when the speakers included Mr. T. D. Burnett, M.P., and Mr. Stanley Smith, a member of the Canterbury Education Board. The evening concluded with concert items and dancing, and on the following day, Sunday, a church parade attracted a good attendance, when special jubilee services were held in the Presbyterian, Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches.

### REUNION 1948

It is noteworthy that those responsible for the preparation of this function include some with a close connection with the school over many years. Mr. M. F. Maze and Miss Agnes Maze were associated with Mr. Thompson, headmaster in the 'eighties; Messrs. R. J. Esler and F. W. Agnew were under Mr. Dalglish; Messrs. G. H. Steven, J. G. Munro, K. Esler and Mr. W. J. Bennett were here over thirty years ago, as were Mrs. K. Muller (Dossett), D. G. Campbell (M. Cartwright), Mrs. Harold Muir (M. Hall) and Miss Arletta Cartwright. The present school committee and staff have given excellent support in many ways; the teachers under Mrs. Fraser, having volunteered to manage the afternoon tea for Re-union Saturday. Mr. Eric Esler was a recent student of our secondary department and of Dunedin Training College; Mr. R. J. Williams has connections with the district through his father who settled here nearly seventy years ago, while Mr. Pat Friel, who has assisted at every turn, goes still further back into local history. Mrs. Wooffindin (Crozier) and Mrs. Cunningham (Ray) while unable to attend many meetings, made valuable contributions, and the Rev. N. E. Oakley, associated with the organisation throughout, has helped with sub-committee activities.



## FLOWER SHOW

\*

One of the difficulties facing the School Committee of any School and in any year is the raising of funds. Concerts and similar entertainments have been given at Point throughout its school history, and while helping to raise school funds, they have afforded an opportunity of displaying to parents something of one side of the school work, but the Flower Show, which was first held in September 1923, has not only proved an excellent way of raising money for school purposes, but it has contributed largely to the cultural advancement of the community.

"The Timaru Herald" of 6th October, 1923, reports the following:—

"The annual sale of work, to which was added this year, a sale of spring flowers, in aid of the School funds, was held in the Public Hall on Thursday. The innovation proved a great success, and will tend to popularise this deserving annual function.

The judge of the flowers, Mr. K. Edginton, remarked that the blooms were quite an eye-opener to him, and reflected the greatest credit on the exhibitors. The show of narcissi in particular was quite equal to anything in Timaru."

After the first flower show a credit balance was shown of £94/4/10; and ever since, each year a large amount has been made, with the record in 1947 of £110.

The show, always a spring one, is held in the School and although mainly a flower show, has classes for cookery, farm and garden produce, arts, crafts and sewing, school work and animals. It has grown considerably, especially in the last few years, and in 1946, as the pets' entries were so large it was decided in future to hold a separate Pets' Day. This has proved a great success, and on Pets' Day anything from a bantam to a cow is liable to find its way into the school grounds.

### HALSTEAD CHALLENGE CUP for most points in the Flower Section (Children's)

1935—A. Malthus	1943—M. Shaw and
1936—W. A. Little	M. Taylor
1937—E. R. Popplewell	1944—C. Shaw
1938—B. A. Taylor	1945—M. A. Taylor
1939—R. Carter	1946—C. Shaw
1940—H. Norton	1947—C. Shaw
1941—R. Carter	

### CHALLENGE CUP, presented in 1930 by Miss M. Davidson, for Best Groomed Horse.

1930—E. Kee	1938—H. W. Jackson
1931—J. Murphy	1939—J. Campbell
1932—J. Murphy	1940—L. Grant
1933—J. Murphy	1941—G. Grant
1933—J. Murphy	1943—A. Grant
1934—J. Murphy	1944—A. Grant
1935—J. Murphy	1945—P. Brophy
1936—M. Fraser	1946—L. Mulligan
1937—M. Fraser	1947—J. Jackson

HERBERT SMITH TRUST for Champion Pony  
1936—L. Bell 1946—P. Brophy

XXXX

### THE DENTAL CLINIC

\*

One of the activities in connection with the School of which our committee is justifiably proud is the operation of the Dental Clinic. This was controlled by the School Committee until July 1939, when a separate Dental Clinic Committee was formed with Mr. Gibb chairman, Miss Price secretary, the School Committee and delegates from Kerrytown, Waitohi, Cannington and the Convent. It was the wish of the annual meeting of 1947, however, that in future the School Committee should also be the Dental Clinic Committee with the same chairman for both, with the addition of the headmaster and a representative from St. Joseph's Convent.

Chairman:		Secretary:	
Mr. S. C. Gibb ..	1939-1943	Miss M. M. Price ..	1939-1947
Mr. H. T. Fort ..	1943-1947	Mr. W. J. Bennett ..	1947
Mr. A. C. Shaw ..	1947-1948	Mr. H. Gilmore ..	1948-
Mr. V. W. Wilson ..	1948-		

The New Zealand Dental Service, conducted by the Dental Division of the Department of Health, was instituted in 1921, when seven dental nurses were trained in Wellington. Nowadays, every March and September, 50 trainees are admitted. We have a special interest in this scheme, for among the trainees, these have recently entered from Pleasant Point:—Rona and Louie Innes, Kathleen Dossett and Beatrice Marshall.

Our children were brought under the scheme in 1926. In March of that year, members of the Pleasant Point School Committee were invited to Temuka to be present at a function held to welcome Nurse Cato, the first dental nurse there. The chairman of the School Committee, Mr. W. B. Oborn, and Mr. M. Maze were elected the Pleasant Point representatives on the advisory committee, and steps were taken to secure a suitable room for



use as a dental clinic. It was finally decided to use one of the technical rooms, which was to be suitably painted and renovated. On 9th June, 1926, a public meeting, to which committees of all surrounding schools were invited, was held to discuss ways and means of raising funds to establish the dental room at the School, and when the Department at the end of that month sanctioned the Temuka nurse visiting Point, a definite advancement was made. At first, it was decided to make a charge of a shilling per operation per child to cover laundry expenses, but now each clinic gets a Government grant to cover all sundry expenses.

In 1914 the St. Andrews clinic was established as a sub-base of Pleasant Point, instead of Point being worked in conjunction with Fairlie. In recent years both School rolls have grown considerably. In 1943-44 the average number of infants at Pleasant Point was about 50, while now there are about 100. With this increase in the number attending the clinic, it has been necessary for Forms I. and II. to attend private dental practitioners under a social security grant. This enables these children to receive free dental treatment until they reach 16 years of age. By this time, the pupils are old enough and sufficiently interested to realise the importance of keeping their teeth sound so that they will continue to attend the dentist and look after their teeth.

In March 1928, 63 children were treated at Pleasant Point and 17 at Waitohi; the number of fillings was 213, treatments 237 and 117 extractions, which shows that owing to no previous work, treatment was sorely needed. This point is proved by the fact that the nurse had to perform about one extraction to every two fillings, whereas now to every 100 fillings, approximately three or four extractions are necessary.

The number receiving treatment at present is 510.

One of the main objects of the dental clinic is to prevent dental caries by educating both parents and children in the fundamentals of a good diet and tooth care. The pupils are under constant observation, are examined twice a year and given necessary treatment. Particular attention is given to instructing them in the principles of dental hygiene, and the Department aims at securing the co-operation of both children and parents in the endeavour to reduce the prevalence of dental disease. As more nurses are trained, the service will be able to undertake dental health education on a bigger scale.

On 10th September, 1932, when the technical school, in which the dental nurse had had her room, was destroyed by fire, arrangements had to be made for a temporary room to serve as a dental clinic. The operating theatre of the unoccupied hospital was secured and used until the present clinic was built.

## DENTAL NURSES

Nurse Cato  
Nurse Hall  
Nurse Mouat  
Nurse Armstrong  
Nurse Matthews

Nurse Ireland (additional to  
Nurse Matthews)  
Nurse Shilton  
Nurse Howard

XXXX

## SPORTS AND RECREATIONS

\*

Football and cricket have been played at Pleasant Point since the beginning of the School, although football especially has progressed a great deal from those days when there were 50 boys to a side, and the team with the boy with the biggest boots could be assured of winning. Football has always been a strong feature—the Cartwrights, Munros, Dossetts and Campbells being well known—more than one Cartwright has reached representative standard and W. Argus was a Kiwi player and is at present in the Canterbury representative team. When the School was in Harris Street, Mr. Kelly's orchard was a good place to kick the ball whenever anyone wanted an apple. Marbles and cat-in-the-ring were also favourites of the boys in the early days and in the 1890's they delighted in playing hares and hounds over the downs, although they knew they'd get their "medicine" when they returned to School at 1.30 instead of 1 o'clock.

The girls amused themselves with rounders, skipping and twos and threes, but Mr. Strack started croquet and at the beginning of the century, basketball was begun. It was a great game, especially for a cold morning when the headmaster and an assistant would have teams; it was a general free-for-all up and down the tennis court. The School tennis court was for some time the main one in the district and hockey, which was played for many years, was begun under Miss Williams, the secondary assistant, in 1916.

Items concerning sport from the minute books:—

22nd September, 1906—Mr. J. Murphy has given permission to the boys to play football and cricket on his section, on condition that the fences are not broken.

1920—Visit of an itinerant drill instructor.

May, 1923—Basketballs to be obtained for infants.

19th November, 1924—Proposed that two croquet balls be purchased and that the mallets be repaired.

30th August, 1926—A vote of congratulation was passed to the boys who had won the seven-a-side football medals at Timaru.



9th November, 1931—The tennis club presented two miniature silver cups for competitions.

13th June, 1932—A sports visit has been paid by the Temuka District High School and one is projected from Fairlie District High School.

5th December, 1932—Cups have been received from the Herbert Smith Trust to the value of £20 for sports competition.

8th November, 1937—The School was fully represented at the South Canterbury primary school sports meeting held in Timaru on 5th November. The boys especially maintained a high standard, being placed in the majority of events for which they entered.

A proposal has been made to inaugurate an annual sports meeting for the pupils of the four South Canterbury district high schools, the first meeting to take place immediately prior to the closing of schools in December.

Tennis posts have been erected on the new lawns, which it is hoped will be marked out and ready for play within the next few days; two new nets have been supplied.

Arrangements are being made to conduct regular classes in swimming and life-saving. It is hoped to commence these at an early date.

14th March, 1938—The School was represented at the primary school swimming sports held in Timaru on the 11th. Thanks are due to Mrs. Taylor and Mr. G. Blakemore for providing transport.

5th August, 1938—Secondary teams played games with Temuka in basketball and football. Both basketball teams won their games, while the football team was defeated by 11-6. The annual secondary basketball tournament is to be held at Pleasant Point on 18th August.

Great interest has always been shown by the pupils and staffs of the School in the field of sport, and here they have been well supported by the various committees who have been generous in their donations towards sports equipment and even, before the days of school buses, in their donations towards the cost of transport of the pupils on sports trips.

#### ATHLETICS

For some years now, both primary and secondary departments have taken part in the annual athletic features held in South Canterbury. When the four South Canterbury district high schools held their first inter-district high school sports in 1938, Pleasant Point had the distinction of winning the shield and keeping it till

1941. This meeting is held annually and each school in its turn is responsible for the organisation. This year, in spite of the fact that our secondary department is smaller in number than the other three, we were again successful in gaining the shield, the girls winning every athletic event except one, in which they were placed second.

#### WINTER SPORTS

The primary school have friendly matches with the Convent in football and basketball, while the secondary department have annual fixtures with the other South Canterbury district high schools; both sections take part in the annual Rugby and basketball tournaments, the primary held at Timaru, the secondary at Temuka. A feature of the winter sports in the secondary department in the last two years has been the competition between Pleasant Point and Kurow District High Schools. Although we are 80 miles apart, through the generosity of committeemen and parents, transport has been readily provided and a very friendly spirit has grown up between the two schools.

#### SWIMMING

Swimming has always been a favourite sport of Pleasant Point children and until recent years the swimming hole at the river has been a rendezvous for the pupils in the summer months.

At the annual meeting in 1912 it was passed that "a recommendation from this meeting of householders be made to the incoming committee to take steps to erect swimming baths in the School grounds, to which the public could be admitted at specified times." This was carried unanimously and at a subsequent meeting of the committee, it was decided to obtain the services of an engineer to give an estimate of the cost of the swimming baths. War intervened, however, before a start could be made, and although it was suggested at the annual meeting in 1921 that a determined effort be made to augment the baths fund to enable construction of the baths to be undertaken, it was decided that the matter should not be rushed into on account of the high cost of construction at the time.

However, in 1945, an instructional pool was built in the School grounds and has proved of tremendous value in the teaching of swimming.



# 27th FEBRUARY, 1939 — HEADMASTER'S REPORT

\*

Emphasis has this month been placed on physical education. Much of the formal part of School work has been taken out of doors, while additional time has been given to drill and to swimming and life-saving. To-morrow morning the special lessons in physical training will be brought to a close by sectional displays of the various aspects of physical education, while it is proposed to hold the annual swimming sports at Temuka on Thursday. Note: Of 25 children from Standard IV. upwards, formerly unable to swim, all but nine are now able to swim the width of the baths. Special classes in first aid have also been held during the month, and in this respect I have to thank the St. John's Ambulance for assistance.

XXXX

## PLEASANT POINT SPORTS RECORD

\*

### BOYS' SENIOR ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP

1933—D. O'Sullivan	1941—F. Muller
1934—F. Ryan	1942—T. Wilson
1935—F. Ryan	1943—E. Esler
1936—A. Sutherland	1944—E. Esler and
1937—A. Priest	M. Guy
1938—N. Evans	1945—K. McFarlane
1939—W. Struthers	1946—P. Thyne
1940—F. Muller	1947—P. Thyne

### GIRLS' SENIOR ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP

1933—C. Ryan	1941—B. Andrews
1934—D. Dawson	1942—P. Liston
1935—D. Davison	1943—L. Innes
1936—P. Benham	1944—L. Innes
1937—A. Smith	1945—C. Patrick
1938—M. France	1946—C. Patrick
1939—B. Andrews	1947—C. Patrick
1940—B. Andrews	

### HERBERT SOUTH TRUST

#### (Girls' Junior Athletic Championship)

1933—J. Maze	1942—N. Rapley
1934—G. Boal	1943—N. Rapley
1935—P. Benham	1944—R. Smith
1936—M. France	1945—H. Johnson
1937—B. More	1948—B. Wilkinson
1938—C. Davison	

### GIRLS' TENNIS — SECONDARY

1938—E. Davison	1944—J. Barclay
1939—M. France	1945—B. Marshall
1940—D. Connor	1946—B. Marshall
1941—D. Connor	1947—R. Malthus
1942—N. Gillingham	1948—C. Patrick
1943—R. Innes	

## BOYS' TENNIS — SECONDARY

1938—G. Gibb	1944—J. Campbell
1939—G. Gibb	1945—J. Campbell
1940—G. Gibb	1946—A. Young
1941—F. Muller	1947—A. Young
1942—T. Gliddon	1948—J. Patrick
1943—M. Smith	

### HERBERT SMITH TRUST

#### Junior Girl's Tennis

1932—J. Tozer	1942—J. Barclay
1933—J. Maze	1943—J. Barclay
1935—B. Christie	1944—F. Taylor
1936—A. Christie	1945—A. Hart
1938—E. Struthers	1946—P. Walden
1939—E. Blakemore	1947—J. Campbell
1940—D. Coles	1948—B. Wilkinson
1941—L. Jackson	

#### Junior Boys' Tennis

1933—S. Allison	1942—J. Campbell
1935—A. Muir	1943—B. Stewart
1936—G. Gibb	1944—J. Armstrong
1938—M. Blakemore	1945—R. Howey
1939—A. France	1946—J. Patrick
1940—M. Smith	1947—J. Patrick
1941—W. Divan	1948—B. Blackler

### SWIMMING

Alex. G. Sutherland Memorial Cup, presented to the School 29/7/42 for Senior Swimming

1944—J. Campbell	1946—A. Young
1945—J. Campbell	1947—R. Malthus

### SENIOR BOYS' STEEPLECHASE

1933—A. Simmons	1941—F. Muller
1934—E. Chisholm	1942—L. Wilson
1935—B. Priest	1944—J. Campbell
1936—A. Sutherland	1945—R. Fraser
1937—I. McKerchar	1946—A. Young
1940—L. Bishop	1947—P. Thyne

### HERBERT SMITH TRUST

#### Junior Steeplechase

1933—P. Chisholm	1941—J. More
1934—A. Muir	1942—R. Fraser
1935—I. Smillie	1943—R. Fraser
1936—L. Smillie	1944—R. Fraser
1937—S. Chisholm	1945—R. Herbert
1938—J. Graham	1946—J. Agnew
1939—J. Graham	1948—J. Donald
1940—Eric Smith	



# ROLL OF HONOUR



From this school district the following paid the supreme sacrifice:—

## 1914-1918 WAR

R. F. AITKEN	D. A. MCKAY
H. BOTHERWAY	H. B. HINSON
C. CHILDS	C. C. HALSTEAD
J. COSGROVE	F. HYDE
E. CHILDS	N. MAZE
W. A. DUNN	J. STEVENS
R. G. DUNNAGE	C. SAUNDERS
A. FARQUHAR	M. SAUNDERS
W. J. GLIDDON	A. SAUNDERS
S. GIBSON	

## 1939-1945 WAR

T. M. BLAKEMORE	H. GOULD
H. BROSNAHAN	R. GOULD
P. BROSNAHAN	E. KEE
A. CAMPBELL	E. LITTLE
D. C. CAMPBELL	I. MCKERCHAR
J. S. CARTWRIGHT	F. MORRISON
G. CASWELL	R. MORRISON
J. E. CHAPMAN	A. MUIR
J. CONNELL	W. A. PELVIN
R. A. CROMBIE	E. J. ROBERTS
D. B. GILES	A. G. SUTHERLAND
J. GILLINGHAM	